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Third International Conference on Financing for Development
Addis Ababa, 13-16 July 2015

Item 10
Adoption of the outcome document of the Conference

Letter dated 29 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference

I have the honour to transmit the statement delivered on behalf of the Group of 77 and China at the closing meeting of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Addis Ababa from 13 to 16 July 2015 (see annex). I hereby request that this statement be issued as a document of the Conference and thus be included in the report.

(*Signed*) Jeremiah Nyamane Kingsley **Mamabolo**
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of South Africa to the United Nations
and Chair of the Group of 77 and China

15-12924 (E) 030915

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Annex to the letter dated 29 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference

Closing statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China by Ambassador Kingsley Mamabolo, Permanent Representative of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations, Chair of the Group of 77 and China, at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development

[Addis Ababa, 16 June 2015]

I would like to once again acknowledge with sincere thanks and appreciation the stewardship and the hospitality of your Government, Mr. President. We also note with gratitude the goodwill and kindness that have been extended to us by the people of Ethiopia.

Furthermore, we are most grateful to Ethiopia for hosting this Third International Conference on Financing for Development. I am certain that members of our Group will find time to visit the places of interest in this beautiful country.

In January of this year, when South Africa assumed the Chair of the Group of the G-77 and China, we looked forward to reaffirming the principles of the Group and to strengthen its unity, cohesion and vision of a fair and equitable multilateral system. We also looked forward to ensuring that we collectively enhance the development agenda of the South, especially as it relates to the outcomes of the major development-related United Nations conferences on the calendar for this year.

In the process of the protracted negotiations that have taken place over the last six months or so, the Group's resolve has affirmed the core principles which we hold dear.

In approaching the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda outcome document today, the Group felt it important that, among other key issues, the enhanced global partnership for development, the need to further strengthen international commitments towards financing for development, and the full and timely implementation of existing commitments in this regard remain at the very heart of the development agenda of the United Nations.

The Group sought to be constructive in its engagement to ensure that a meaningful and ambitious outcome for the financing for development process could be reached, in order to adequately and predictably address the interests of all Member States of the United Nations, in the true spirit of an enduring global partnership for development.

In this regard, as the Group of 77 and China, we are appreciative of the fact that all of us, together with the partners, have spent many months — and sleepless nights — in an attempt to address the critical obstacles to development and to work together towards the eradication of poverty in all its forms.

The G-77 and China recognizes that progress has been achieved. Compromise outcomes have been achieved in a number of key areas, including, for example, the call for a global infrastructure forum, a more comprehensive treatment of the issue of

debt sustainability in the context of the United Nations, provision for capacity-building and a technology transfer mechanism and dedicated mechanisms for follow-up and review with intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations.

However, there remain a number of issues of principle that are important to, and fully endorsed by, the Group that have not been adequately accommodated in the current text, including, but not limited to:

- The explicit reaffirmation of the key principle of common but differentiated responsibilities in the context of the global partnership for development. This principle remains relevant and valid and, indeed, is the basis for all international cooperation on sustainable development. An unequivocal affirmation of this principle in the outcome document of the post-2015 development agenda is a non-negotiable for the Group;
- The need to maintain the integrity of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development and post-2015 development agenda processes as separate negotiation tracks, while acknowledging the need for stronger synergies between them;
- The need for development partners to meet current commitments and to upscale official development assistance (ODA), with biding timetables, including the reaffirmation that ODA is still the main source of development assistance;
- The need to address the diverse and specific development needs of middle-income countries in a coordinated manner through the establishment of a United Nations plan of action towards that end that considers, inter alia, the multidimensional nature of development and poverty;
- The need to fully upgrade the Tax Committee into an intergovernmental body;
- The need to make an explicit reference to countries and people living under foreign occupation;
- The need to explicitly address the issue of lifting and terminating coercive measures, including unilateral economic sanctions;
- References to fossil fuel subsidies and to carbon pricing that could prejudge the outcome of the ongoing United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change negotiations; and
- The need to explicitly address the fact that climate financing is new and additional to and cannot be counted as ODA, nor can it be mixed with traditional development finance.

These principles are fundamental to the livelihoods of our people. There are many more issues that remain unresolved for individual members of the Group, in their national capacities.

We recognize that this conference is part of an ongoing process. The Group is firmly resolved to continue to engage in a constructive manner on these important principles and issues in other relevant forums and on future occasions. Rest assured that the Group is not abandoning its principled positions. If anything, we are seized with the importance of ensuring that the global partnership for development is genuine and adequately resourced, for future generations.

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Item 10
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Letter dated 29 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference

On behalf of my Government, I have the honour to transmit the statement made by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela during the closing meeting of the third International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Addis Ababa from 13 to 16 July 2015 (see annex). I hereby request that this statement be issued as a document of the Conference and thus be included in the final report.

(*Signed*) Rafael **Ramírez**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

15-12995 (E) 040815 030915

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Annex to the letter dated 29 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference

[Original: Spanish]

Explanations of position and reservations of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on the outcome document of the third International Conference on Financing for Development

On behalf of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, I would like to reiterate our recognition and gratitude to Ethiopia for its hospitality and leadership of the third International Conference on Financing for Development.

Our country fully endorses the statement made by South Africa in its capacity as the Chair of the Group of 77 and China, which represents the voice of 134 of the 193 States Members of the United Nations. In this connection, its work to ensure coordination, mediation and cohesion should be recognized. Undoubtedly, today, under its leadership, the Group of 77 and China stands before the world stronger and more united, in defence of the interests of the countries of the South, fully aware of the challenges that face us.

It is very important to clarify that our acceptance of this document in no way endorses its unbalanced content. We are responsibly acknowledging the strategic importance of financing for development, on the understanding that this is an open process that is not concluded today.

The developed countries' belief that with this outcome they are discharging their historical responsibilities to the nations and peoples of the South cannot be applauded, when the development they have achieved has been, for the most part, the result of the colonialism and neocolonialism imposed over the last 500 years.

We stress that the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities is not a mere slogan; it is what distinguishes the various development models, dominated to date by the model imposed by a predatory minority that has based its development on despoiling the environment and on breaking the will of the most vulnerable through the international division of labour, the extraction of natural resources with little value added or the imposition of unequal standards born of a colonial inheritance that still remains.

In adopting the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the outcome of this Conference, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela hereby submits its reservation and explanations of position on specific aspects and elements of the aforementioned document, as follows:

(a) The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela expresses its reservation with regard to paragraph 31. As pointed out at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on the basis of its Constitution, the reference to the removal of subsidies for fossil fuels has an interventionist character in the State's public policies. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela will not accept any kind of evaluation, monitoring, reporting and reviewing of our national energy policies and measures that impinge on our national

sovereignty. That paragraph, in addition, distances itself from and substantially modifies the lines agreed upon in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

(b) With regard to paragraph 60 and paragraph 69, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela does not accept the reference to low-carbon economies and the list of additional innovative mechanisms, especially the reference to carbon pricing mechanisms, for the same reasons expressed above.

(c) With regard to the concept of "modern energy for all", which is reflected in paragraph 49, we express our reservation to this concept as we did in relation to the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, "The future we want", because modern energy, in our view, implies the use of new technologies without the necessary evaluation of their application in a national context or of technological development priorities.

(d) We note with regret that paragraph 14 omits the reference introduced by the Group of 77 and China to initiatives that would ensure a broader supply of financing, in particular through the establishment of new multilateral development banks such as the Bank of the South, the Bank of ALBA and the ALBA Fund, to complement existing international institutions.

(e) We also regret the failure to include another of the items of interest to the Group of 77 and China, relating to our concern about trade barriers, such as coercive economic measures, including unilateral sanctions that seriously threaten trade and productive investments for peoples.

(f) Finally, it is appropriate to recall once again that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is not a party to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, and that the objection to the texts adopted in this document cannot be interpreted as a change of position on said Convention.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela requests that this statement be included as an integral part of the adoption of the outcome document and that it appear in the records of this Conference.

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Addis Ababa, 13-16 July 2015

Agenda item 10
Adoption of the outcome document of the Conference

Letter dated 30 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Nicaragua to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference

I have the honour to request that the attached statement by the Republic of Nicaragua during the closing meeting of the third International Conference on Financing for Development be circulated as a document of the Conference (see annex).

(*Signed*) María **Rubiales de Chamorro**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

15-13007 (E) 050815 030915

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Annex to the letter dated 30 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Nicaragua to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference

[Original: Spanish]

Explanation of vote by the Republic of Nicaragua at the closing meeting of the third International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Addis Ababa from 13 to 16 July 2015, delivered by the Minister and Private Secretary for Public Policies, Paul Oquist

Thank you, Mr. President,

On behalf of the Nicaraguan delegation, I would like to reiterate our gratitude to the Government and people of Ethiopia for their kind hospitality in this beautiful country.

Nicaragua associates itself with the statement made by South Africa on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and wishes to take the floor to provide an explanation of position in its national capacity.

Today we welcome the fact that we have successfully reached an agreement on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, thereby making progress towards the achievement of the goals of the global agenda for sustainable development.

Our leaders will adopt the post-2015 development agenda in September 2015, followed by the Paris agreement on climate change. The adoption of this document is therefore good news for our peoples and for multilateralism.

We would like to clarify or reiterate the following points:

(a) Since the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities is found in Principle 7 of the Rio Principles, we have, by incorporating those Principles into paragraph 5 of the outcome document, included the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities as an integral part of the said document;

(b) We must keep the financing for development process separate from the post-2015 agenda, although the synergies between the two processes must be strengthened. The financing for development process must continue until developed countries meet their financial commitments to developing countries;

(c) Bearing in mind that many delegations have requested an increase in official development assistance in order to be able to implement the sustainable development goals, it should be clarified that the solution to this request has already been adopted. If the developed countries were to fulfil the commitments they assumed by consensus under paragraphs 43 and 44 of General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, which should have been implemented by 24 October 1975, official development assistance would more than double from the current 0.29 per cent of developed countries' gross national product to 0.70 per cent;

We salute those countries that have shown the others the way by meeting their international financial commitments on official development assistance, namely, Norway (1.07 per cent), Sweden (1.02 per cent), Luxembourg (1.0 per cent),

Denmark (0.85 per cent) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (0 .72 per cent), while the Netherlands, at 0.67 per cent, is close to the target. These countries are fulfilling their commitments responsibly;

The deficit accumulated in the 40 years since 1975 as a result of the failure to meet the 0.7 per cent target is in excess of 6 quintillion dollars. This is a case of policy incoherence because it represents a loss of income for the fight against poverty, while concentrating significant resources in the North and increasing inequality in the South, contrary to the ultimate goal of official development assistance, the Millennium Development Goals and the sustainable development goals;

(d) It should be clarified that climate financing is additional and should never be categorized as part of official development assistance;

(e) It must be placed on record that there is no single formula or set of measures applicable to financing for development for all countries; countries therefore need to maintain their political space to legislate, establish and implement those measures or regulations that are feasible or necessary;

(f) Unilateral coercive measures which are in violation of international law and hinder the development plans of our countries, such as the universally condemned illegal embargo against Cuba, must be repealed;

(g) We refer explicitly to countries living under territorial occupation; our country stands in solidarity with the struggle and the cause of the Palestinian people.

We wish for this statement to be included in the records of this Conference.

Thank you very much.